

Tennessee Comprehensive Assessment Program

Modified Academic Achievement Standards Assessment MAAS



TCAP - Modified Academic Achievement Standards Assessment

- ★ TDOE adopts Modified Academic Achievement Standards (MAAS) Assessment
- ★ Pearson/ETS contracted to field test MAAS items in Spring 2009
- ★ MAAS to be operational in Spring 2010



TN MAAS Assessment

- ★ Available for all assessments – grades 3 – 8
- ★ Available for all content areas
- ★ MAAS becomes one component of the NCLB Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP)



Overview of Federal Regulations

- ★ April 2007, federal regulations finalized for an option for an alternate assessment based on modified academic achievement standards



Overview of Federal Regulations

- ★ Referred to as the 2% solution
- ★ Students for whom the alternate assessment is too easy
- ★ Students who cannot demonstrate achievement on TN's ACH



Overview of Federal Regulations

- ★ Develop modified achievement standards (performance levels)
- ★ For on-grade-level content standards
- ★ Challenging for eligible students



Overview of Federal Regulations

- ★ Assess a student's mastery for grade-level content
- ★ But at a less difficult level than grade-level achievement standards (performance levels)





Who Takes It?

★Eligibility



Federal Regulations - Eligibility

- ★ Eligible students may be from any of the disability categories listed in IDEA.



Federal Regulations - Eligibility

- ★ "A student's IEP Team continues to determine how the student will participate in State and district-wide assessments." (OESE)



Federal Regulations Guidelines for IEP Teams

- ★ The student's disability has precluded the student from achieving grade-level proficiency.



Federal Regulations Guidelines for IEP Teams

- ★ The IEP team is reasonably certain the student will not achieve grade-level proficiency within the year covered by the IEP.



Federal Regulations Guidelines for IEP Teams

- ★ The student's IEP has goals based on the grade level in which the student is enrolled.



Federal Regulations: Guidelines for IEP Teams

- ★ Students cannot be precluded from attempting to complete the requirements for a regular high school diploma.



TN MAAS – What Is It?

- ★ **Assess same content standards as ACH**
- ★ **Test design specific to MAAS**
- ★ **Test questions developed for MAAS**
- ★ **Achievement standards specific to MAAS**



TN MAAS – What Is It?

- ★ Same content standards as ACH
- ★ Different (modified) achievement standards
- ★ Achievement standards = Performance levels



TN MAAS – What Is It?

- ★ On grade-level content standards
- ★ The manner in which we assess grade-level content will be appropriate for valid assessment of the 2% population



Federal Regulations – Modified Achievement Standards

- ★ Modified achievement standards (and associated performance level descriptors) express achievement levels expected for the 2% population at these same levels (Below Proficient, Proficient, Advanced).



Federal Regulations – Modified Achievement Standards

- ★ Achievement expectations may be set to provide a better method for assessing growth over time for the 2% population.
- ★ Achievement standards should promote challenging expectations for this population.



TN MAAS – Standards Setting

- ★ After performance level descriptors for each achievement level are obtained, appropriate cut scores can be set for each proficiency level.
- ★ Educator committees will be convened to recommend cut scores for this population on this new assessment.



Modified Academic Achievement Standards (MAAS) – The Assessment

- ★ Test design changes include:
- Shorter assessments
 - Three answer option choices
 - Shorter reading passages
 - Reduced reading load
 - Simplified language
 - Decreased cognitive complexity



Modified Academic Achievement Standards (MAAS) – The Assessment

★ Format changes include:

- Print styles simplified
- Charts, graphs, and tables simplified
- Print type size enlarged
- Essential information reinforced
- Fewer items on each page



Additional Resources

★Resource:

Non-regulatory guidance from the Office of Elementary and Secondary Education (OESE). (2007, April) Modified Academic Achievement Standards: Non-regulatory Guidance. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Education. Available at: <http://www.ed.gov/admins/lead/account/saa.html>



Additional Resources

★Resource:

National Center on Educational
Outcomes (NCEO)

<http://cehd.umn.edu/AAMAS.html>





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